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formation from those closest to the subject, was employed by the Education Committee, which scheduled "rap sessions" in which invited officials were sent separately to the Village Commissioners and the officials of the Department of Education, along with the newly-elected Board of Education. These were well attended and discussion was lively and productive.

It is expected that the less controversial propositions in the various subject-matter areas will come to the floor of the Convention early in August, with the more controversial issues awaiting public hearings, then coming up for final deliberation in late August, when the plenary sessions will increase to three a week. The first draft of the constitution is expected to be ready for public hearings in early September.

Some of the propositions are conversions from the present Organic Act. These must, of course, be carried over to the new Guam Constitution. With these, there will probably be very little argument, but there are many which are quite provocative and will undoubtedly bring much deliberation and some lively debate.

The free spirit of the Convention makes it mandatory that no matter how outlandish, or "un-constitutional" a proposition may sound at first, it must and will be given its day in court. "An open and frank dialogue is absolutely necessary in the framing of a document that truly reflects the hopes and desires of the greatest number of people," President Carl Gutierrez says. "These ideas wouldn't surface if there wasn't some basis somewhere, and we owe it to all segments of our island to hear them out. I'm sure the writers of the Declaration of Independence came up with what was considered to be wild ideas at

their parents or guardian consent. In the area of Family Rights, some propositions reflect a sensitivity that warrants some attention by the public at large. Whether or not these desires belong in a constitution is up to the delegates. For example, one states: A parent shall always have the right to visit his or her children. Another says: A person under the age of 18 shall have the right to ask the court to take him or her away from his or her parents or guardian. Others deal with divorce and custody of children. One gets at the problem of non-support in a separation or divorce. It permits the attaching of a spouse's paycheck in order to withhold a portion for the support of a child in the custody of the other spouse.

The Legislature comes in for a considerable amount of scrutiny in the first drafts of propositions. Such changes as setting up two houses, redistricting, and staggering terms according to the order of finish in the full-house count, were suggested. One even makes a legislator immune from arrest while in attendance or while going to and from the same, except for in cases of treason, felony or breach of the peace.

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Congressman A. B. Won Pat meets informally with Con Con Delegates to clarify his position on Federal-Territorial Relations. President Gutierrez moderates.

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Some reflect a concern for helping the narcotic addict and the alcoholic. Others are concerned with the consumer, and the long-sought office of the Ombudsman has surfaced again in one of the propositions. Collective bargaining and overtime-pay policy, as well as a "Mini-Hatch Act" to protect employees against political coercion, are among the many unique propositions. And then there is one that deals with flying the flags of the United States of America and the territory of Guam - side by side. And side by side, in the next three months, delegates to the 1977 Constitutional Convention will be working to hammer out an effective document under which all the people of Guam will be in a better position to pursue life, liberty, and happiness . . . the good life.

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Delegate Reyes has the floor, Delegates V. Perez, Nelson, Won Pat and Leon Guerrero listen. Citizen Jose (background) observes.



Three Village Commissioners rap with Members of Con Con Education Committee. Education Chairperson Yamashita and Delegate Nelson take it in.